

SOUTHWESTER

A Monthly Non-Profit Publication of the Southwest Community Council, Inc.

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April 20-May 20, 1995



SW and the Cherry Blossom Festival



George Koch of A-Salon, organizer of Cherry Blossom Art/Craft Show held on board Potomac Spirit and Rosemarie Lentini provide programs to the public.

The 15-day National Cherry Blossom Festival started on Sunday, March 26. The opening ceremony featuring representatives of the Japanese Embassy and the D.C. Mayor's Office, took place in front of Spirit Cruises, 6th and Water Streets, S.W. There was music by the Washington Koto Society, the U.S. Navy band, and the Kennedy Center Traveling Young Players. The ceremony concluded with the introduction of the 1995 National Cherry Blossom Queen and a traditional lighting of a Japanese lantern.

All day Sunday, the fifth annual Cherry Blossom Arts & Crafts Show was held aboard the ship Potomac Spirit, which was moored at the pier behind the site of the opening ceremony. More than 25 artists, from a wide range of disciplines - from painting to dollmaking, from jewelry to wood carvings - were there. Admission was free all day, from 10:00 to 5:00.

The festival was a huge success.

More Pictures on Page 3



Elaine Hahn, a watercolorist of many years' standing, paints in traditional, realistic style. She also does litho reproductions of her own watercolors.

worldly events and opened their lovely pink blossoms each year.

About twenty years ago, Washington citizens began to recognize the importance of their trees, and built a festival timed to highlight the annual blossoming. And this festival has grown in scope and importance each year, with elaborate ceremonies marking the beginning and end of their blooming. This year's tree planting was the newest addition to the Festival calendar.

More Pictures on Page 3



WWA President Tom D'Amato helps representative from Fureal Walk-an ANA Hallo tour group who donated two of the Yoshino cherry trees.

SWNA Meeting

The April Meeting will be on Monday, April 24th at 6:30 pm at SW Library. We will be discussing a Beautification/Clean-up Day for SW.

In a ceremony filled with symbolism, ten young yoshino cherry tree saplings were planted along the Southwest waterfront on April 6. The occasion was the 83rd anniversary of the original gift of 3,000 trees from the Mayor of Tokyo to the city of Washington. And by fortuitous chance, descendants of both the Japanese horticulturist who grew the original trees and of President William Howard Taft, who officiated at the original ceremony, were present for the festivities.

The original trees came from the garden of Myoka-en in Tokyo, which was laid out about the year 1886, and served as either a botanical garden or amusement park. It was created by a man named Harutaro Kawase, who had studied landscaping in the United States in his youth. Mr. Kawase rose to become Secretary of the Interior, and became friendly with Yukio Ozaki, who was a great admirer of the garden, and later became Governor of Tokyo.

To show the growing importance of Japan in the early 20th century, both men felt that making a gift to the United States would be a significant gesture, leading to a great friendship between the two countries. When the two men learned that the wife of President Taft was seeking to beautify the newly dredged Washington riverfront, the two men agreed that a number of the beautiful cherry trees that graced Mr. Kawase's garden would be an ideal choice.

Several Japanese corporations, including Zenkoku Sushisho Kankyo, the society of sushi chefs; Akatsuki, a large manufacturer of kimonos; ANA Hallo Tours; and Kirin Beer, together with a number of individuals, donated seven-foot saplings in bud. And, on April 6, in a large ceremony, the trees were shoveled into the ground by their donors, assisted by local dignitaries including ANC commissioners Richard Westbrook and C.W. Hargrave, as well as Washington Waterfront Association President Thomas D'Amato and several officials of the city of Washington. Sandra Hill, Chief of the Tree Division of DPW was thanked for the planting of over 50 cherry trees in Southwest.

William Howard Taft, great-grandson of the President, and Frank Kawase, great-grandson of the original Tokyo garden designer, were also among the shoveler. Mr. Kawase, who lives in Princeton, New Jersey, moved to the United States 15 years ago. He was "greatly moved to learn of the impact of that gift" and decided to visit Washington during cherry tree time for the first time in his life.

The ten trees can be seen in the ground in front of Spirit Cruises and the Gangplank restaurant.

The presentation was made early in the year 1912, the last year of Taft's presidency. Over the years, the relationship between Japan and the United States has undergone much change, but the cherry trees have serenely ignored such



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Some people in our community would like to know who is interested.

Take some steps on the information superhighway and unite the S.W. Community.

People who would like to teach and people who would like to learn are invited. Come let your voice be heard! Come to the S.W. Branch Library (in the basement) on Monday, May 8, 1995 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

For additional information, call or visit the S.W. Community House by calling 202-488-7210.

SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wed. Apr 19	Southwest Waterfront AARP Chapter #4751, St. Matthew's Church, 12-Noon.	Sun. May 21	21st Blessing of the Fleet, Gangplank Marina, 600 Water Street, S.W., 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Mon. Apr 24	Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Southwest Branch Library, 6:30 p.m.	Sat. Jun 03	14th Annual Rivertrek, National Kidney Foundation of the Capital Area, 10K walk beginning at D.C. Harbor Police station, 8:00 - 10:00 (registration), contact Meri Lombardo, 202-244-7900.
Wed. Apr 26	WMATA Public Hearing on Fare Changes, WMATA Board Room, 600 Fifth Street, N.W., 7:30 p.m.	Sat. Jun 24	5th Annual Spring Concert, TAPS & COMPANY, Lansburgh Theater, 450-7th Street, N.W., 7:30. Contact Toni Lombre, 202-393-TAPS.
Thu. Apr 27	NARFE Chapter 2052, Southwest Branch Library, 1:30 p.m.	Sun. Jun 25	Star Trek 10K run/walk Waterfront Arts Festival, Water Street between 7th and 9th, volunteers needed, contact Randy Goldman, 202-488-8515.
Sun. Apr 30	SWNA Youth Activities Task Force Reception, FoxTrappe, 700 Water Street, S.W., 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.		
Mon. May 01	Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Board, Southwest Branch Library, 6:30 p.m.		
Tue. May 02	First District Police Advisory Council, 1D Headquarters, 415 4th Street, S.W., 7:30 p.m.		
Mon. May 08	Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 7:30 p.m.		
Wed. May 17	Southwest Waterfront AARP Chapter #4751, St. Matthew's Church, 12-Noon.		

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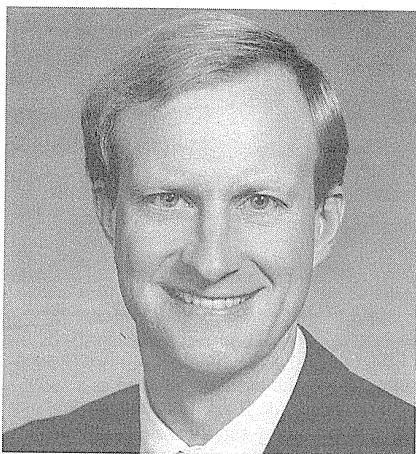
Drop off stories by the 12th of the month in the box behind the counter at the S.W. Library - 3rd & I(Eye) SW - or mail to: **The Southwester**, P.O. 70131, Wash. D.C., 20024

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hi:

The vehicle drivers using N street coming East, onto 4th street are some of the stupid drivers that exist. I would like to know what they think they are accomplishing with their actions instead of waiting for the light to turn GREEN.

A Baffled SW Resident



Jack Evans Speaks

COME OUT AND HEAR YOUR COUNCILMEMBER

Councilmember Jack Evans will attend the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly meeting on May 22, 1995. He will be accompanied by a representative from Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). Evans will be discussing the recent Metro bus route changes and give an update on the District's financial crisis and the impacts. This is your opportunity to hear first hand where your Councilmember stands on issues pertinent to your community.

JOB FAIR UPDATE

The location and date of the Ward Two second annual Job Fair has been determined. The event will take place at **Jefferson Junior High School on Saturday, June 10, 1995**. Over 50 employers and more than 350 applicants participated in our first Job Fair. A number of Ward Two residents were successful in securing positions with businesses such as Riggs National Bank, Giant Food, and hotels throughout the city. This year's fair will also include a health mobile providing information on health which will include free blood pressure and cholesterol testing.

The response thus far has been good. However, we still need Southwest volunteers and employers to help ensure success. Please call Vicki Parker at (202) 724-8058 to volunteer and learn more about the event.

SPECIAL THANKS TO FIRST DISTRICT POLICE

Councilmember Jack Evans and staff would like to commend the Metropolitan First District Police for an exemplary response to the communities in Southwest that had been experiencing a series of auto vandalism. Earlier this year our office received numerous calls complaining of car break-ins and vandalism that were occurring on a regular basis. After being contacted by my office, officers at the Metropolitan First District Police attended a community meeting to discuss the problem. Weeks later, three arrests were made in connection with the crime.

We have always found the First District to be very responsive to our constituents and in this instance they reacted exceptionally well. Thank you and keep up the good work.

ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL AWARDS

Awards were given to participants of the Cherry Blossom Festival Arts & Crafts show on March 26.

Lucilda Dassardo-Copper, an instructor at Filmore Art Center, judged among 24 entrants, choosing:

Best of Show: Don Viehman, for Cloisonne Jewelry, was awarded \$125.00.

Second Place: Elaine Hahn, watercolorist, was awarded \$75.00.

Third Place: Adriane Franszoon, wood carver, was awarded \$50.00.



Adriane Franszoon, a wood carver raised in the Maroon community of Suriname, has had several works exhibited in the Smithsonian's Museum of African Art. His output includes wall hangings, frames, and tables.

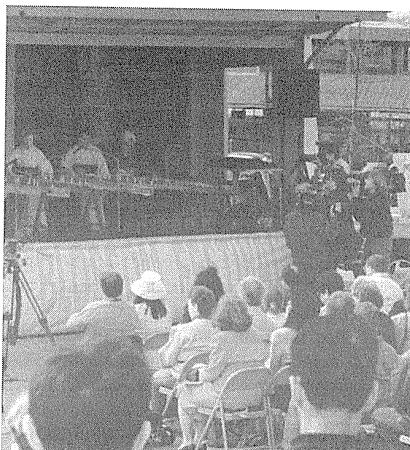
SNCC

In commemoration of the thirty-fifth anniversary of the founding of SNCC, the Unemployment and Poverty Action Committee (UPAC) and independent, non-governmental, and non-profit social action organization, held a reception on Saturday, April 15, 1995 to commemorate the occasion.

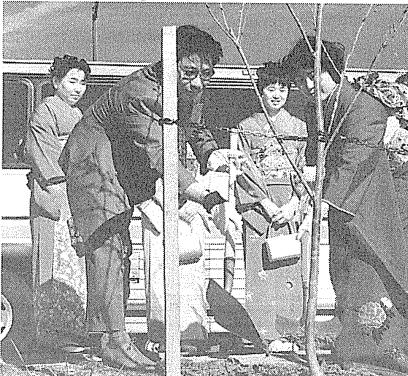
Thirty-five years ago, during Easter weekend of 1960, many southern students and their supporters who had been protesting segregation and discrimination in Southern states and elsewhere in the U.S. met in Raleigh, North Carolina at Shaw University. There, they formed the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and independent civil rights organization that helped to end segregation in the U.S. and to obtain the right to vote for all U.S. citizens. SNCC was very involved in voter registration and voter education campaigns in such areas as Albany, Georgia, the entire state of Mississippi, and in Selma, Alabama and adjacent areas, as well as campaigns to Free D.C.

James Foreman, President of UPAC, was the Executive Secretary of SNCC from 1961 to 1966 and its International Affairs Director from 1966 to 1969. On March 5, 1995 Foreman spoke at a rally at the Brown Chapel A.M.E. church in Selma, Alabama and crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge with many others who were celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery March.

Continued from P. 1



Washington Koto Society perform at National Cherry Blossom Festival



Frank Kawase assists member of Akatsuki (a kimono association group) in D.C. to plant trees and march in the Cherry Blossom Parade.

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The following is a letter from Councilman Jack Evans:

As Ward 2 City Councilmember, I want to take this opportunity to again thank you for your past support, and inform you of an exciting and significant event taking place in my Ward, for which I am again requesting your support and participation.

On Saturday, June 10, 1995, from 10am to 3pm, I will be housing our Ward 2/ 2nd Annual Job Fair. I am pleased to say that our first job fair brought together over 50 employers and more than 350 job applicants, and we were successful in securing positions for a number of Ward 2 residents.

We are quite pleased and proud to be holding our upcoming fair at Jefferson Junior High School, one of our premier Junior High Schools in Ward 2, whose Principal is Ms. Vera White. Jefferson is located in Southwest Washington, at 801 H Street, S.W., off of Main Street.

The Job Fair is being co-sponsored by Jefferson Junior High School along with many other community organizations in Southwest, and will reach out to all ages and skill levels, offering positions at entry level, non-skilled (on-the-job training) as well as skilled positions. We have contacted a broad array of business industries and service organizations within the private sector, including hotels and restaurants, medical facilities, colleges, and media, retail businesses, and service organizations.

We have also reached out to the Southwest community, inviting local elected officials, government agencies, and community and religious leaders. As well, the local media will be giving the event broad coverage.

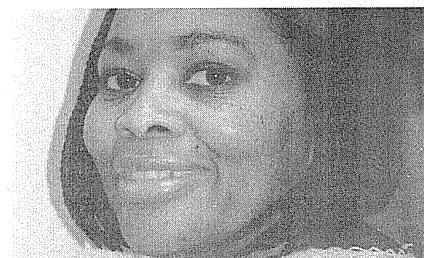
Thank you for your support. I look forward to working with you at the Job Fair. As you can well imagine, producing this event is a major endeavor and your prompt response is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact my Director of Constituent Services, June Hirsh at 724-8058.

Sincerely,

Jack Evans
Councilmember, Ward 2

Scholarship Applications Available

There is still a little bit of time left for full-time students to pick-up scholarship applications at the SW Library. The deadline for the applications to be returned is May 15th. That is less than one month away.



JONES IS HONORED

Congratulations to Southwest civic leader Thelma Jones who has been selected as a "1995 Seven on Your Side Black History Month Honoree" for making a significant contribution to the Washington community.

The annual award is sponsored by WJLA-Channel 7. Jones was nominated by former Youth Activities Task Force Chairperson Beryl C. Rice who is now president of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly. Jones will be honored at a special luncheon on Thursday, May 11, at noon, at the Foxtrappe, 700 Water Street, SW.

While reminding students to apply, we want to state to our SW neighbors that now is the time to send a check to the Scholarship Committee (all of the money goes to scholarships). The mailing address is SW Scholarship Committee, POB 70481, Washington, DC 20024. Thanks for helping.



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YATF STILL ON THE MOVE

Thelma Jones

From its inception in 1982, the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly's (YATF) focused on training, identifying, placing and mentoring Southwest youth for summer jobs and a few year-round after school jobs. In the past few years, the Mayor's Summer Job Program has been fulfilling this need. As a result, the YATF has focused its efforts and resources in other areas of youth activities. During 1994, the YATF, through a \$,000 grant, supported a Jr. Friends of the (Southwest) Library Afrocentric Program which consisted of a workshop and several series of lectures on various Afrocentric topics. Some of the topics included Painted Gourd; Red and Black Voices (African/Native American Experiences in the Western Hemisphere; C.R. Gibbs- African Influences in Early Europe and Africa's Gifts to America; Frank Phillips - Descendent of Bill Pickett Discusses the Life and Times of This Great Black Cowboy and Other Black Cowboys; and Joselyn Morgan - African Customs in Courtship and Marriage. The goal of this program was to help instill an awareness of the youth's historical and cultural roots.

As a continuation of the Jr. Friend's Program, Southwest Scholarship Recipient Ateya Ball will teach African dances. Dance classes are rescheduled to start in early April.

In addition, individual Task Force members supported a highly-successful Kwanzaa celebration at the Southwest Library (see January issue) which drew a diverse crowd.

Currently, the Task Force is sponsoring a pilot tutorial program which includes five students from the three community schools (Jefferson Jr. High, Amidon ES, and Anthony Bowen ES). The program which meets twice weekly after school for approximately two hours, will run through the end of the school year. Taught by Amidon ES Math Instructor Charles Harden, it includes math/algebra, life skills and field trips and is conducted at the Southwest Library.

At Anthony Bowen, the YATF has approved funding for the purchase of dictionaries for each classroom as well as the Bowen library. Bowen currently has an enrollment of about 431 students.

YATF contributed \$180 for the purchase of sports uniforms for the #4 Boys & Girls Club Basketball team. Now, the team proudly sport their new uniforms.

To assist in Project Spirit's after school efforts, which is located in Riverside Baptist Church, the Task Force has proposed \$500. The program has an open enrollment to Southwest youth and meets daily after school to assist with homework and the encouragement of the youth's spiritual development. Presently, approximately 20 students in the elementary grade range participate in the program.

Keeping with part of its original focus, the Task Force currently employs a youth part-time at Food and Friends (located at Westminster Presbyterian Church), a feeding program for

Minutes from the SWNA Board Meeting

Members Present: Beryl Rice, Marc Weiss, Jeanne MacKenzie, Lonnie Murray, Carole Early, Joe Rauscher, Zandra Earl, Peggy Jackson, Emma Ward, Barbara Murray, Margaret Feldman.

Members Excused: Yvonnier Staley, Walter Brooks.

The following was discussed:

Calendar of meetings for the year: It was agreed that the Board will meet at the SW Library at 6:30 the first Monday of each month, skipping July and August. The September meeting of the Board will be the 11th to avoid the holiday weekend.

Communication with the community: It was moved, seconded and passed that we maintain our membership in the Federation of Civic Associations

Financial: Two officers must sign each check.

Treasurer will submit an itemized report of funds.

Community Issues: A letter from the Tiber Island Condominiums regarding two cruise lines preparing to operate from the SW waterfront.

There was a discussion of the relationship of the Wiley Branton Community Development Corporation with other organizations

The question of the liability of the Southwest Community Council and the SWNA as we work with the Club #4, Police Boys and Girls Club was raised.

Up Coming Assembly meeting program:
April 24 - Theme: "Clean-up and Beautify Southwest"

Purpose: To present and expand a plan to clean-up the neighborhood which would involve the Department of Public Works, EPA, DOT, a possible "adopt a block" program, flower seed distribution and working with the schools. Emma Ward has already initiated a clean-up on 4/8 for Carrollburg.

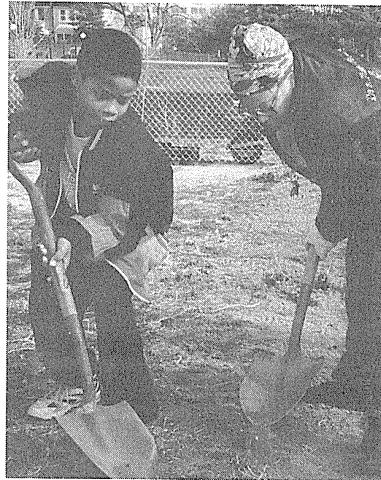
Committee: Emma Ward and Joe Rauscher, Co-Chairs; Zandra Earl, Mattie Callahan, Barbara Ward; and Jim Early, Col. Suggs, and Phyllis Martin from the neighborhood.

home-bound AID patients. Based on evaluations provided by the youth's supervisor, the program is quite pleased with the youth's performance.

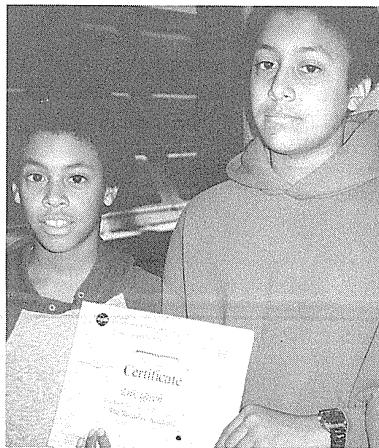
Faced with growing budget cuts, the YATF is considering revisiting its original focus. The challenge, however, with this approach as with the limited, yet faithful volunteers to plan, coordinate, and execute the complex summer jobs program. Currently, the Task Force is considering ways to provide limited summer jobs for Southwest youth only for positions with the community.

Interested volunteers should contact YATF Chairperson Dale MacIver at 202-488-7622.

African American History and Culture, a Saturday afternoon series at the S. W. Library will continue April 29 through June 3 at 2 pm.



Construction has begun on Amidon's Outdoor Classroom



Erik Green, left, an Amidon student, and Braddock Green, a Jefferson student, were presented certificates at UDC for the Saturday Academy program.

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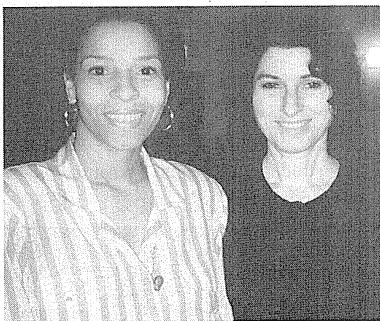
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Board of Education member Ann Wilcox spoke at the SWNA annual meeting



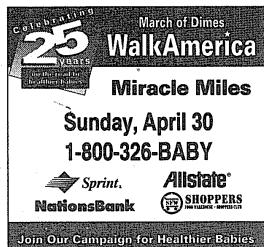
Vicki Parker and June Hirsh of Councilman Evans office



SWNA treasurer Lonnie Murray, right, presents outgoing SWNA Chair John Brown with a photo of fireworks, as seen from the SW waterfront.

New Helping Ministry at Second Baptist Church

The Helping Ministry Group is all organized and ready to be of service. Do you know of anyone who suffers from alcohol or other drug abuse? Help us to help them by giving us a call at (202) 543-5310.



SWNA Annual Meeting A Concern Got You Down?

At the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Annual Meeting, on March 27, 1995, the following reports were given:

I. Reports of the Assembly Committees were the first order of business:

Youth Activities Task Force

Scholarship Committee

Southwester

Ms. Ann Wilcox, Ward 2 Commissioner of Education, and

Lonnie Murray presented the Treasurer's Report for the year, 1994. The 12/31/94 balance was \$63,573.53.

II. An Update on Neighborhood Concerns:

Club #4, Police Boys and Girls Club

Southwest Community House

Southwest Branch Library

III. Election and Installation of the Officers and Board for 1995-1996

The Officers are:

President: Dr. Beryl C. Rice

Vice President: Dr. Marc A. Weiss

Secretary: Rev. Dr. Jeanne MacKenzie

Treasurer: Lonnie Murray

District 1

Carole Early

Apaula Brown

District 2

Joe Rauscher

Zandra Earl

Peggy Jackson

District 3

Walter Brooks

Yvonnzier (Bonnie) Staley

District 4

Mattie Callaham

Emma Ward

VI. The Board of the Southwest Community Council was appointed

Jefferson Cheerleading Squad

by Carlena Solomon

The Jefferson Jr. High School Cheerleading Squad is made up of 7th, 8th and 9th graders who attend Jefferson. The squad meets Monday - Thursday after school at 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. They also meet Monday - Friday at lunchtime. The squad is last year's Citywide Champions.

The coach's name is Ms. Cheryl Odom. Ms. Odom just started coaching at the beginning of the 1994-95 school year. Last year, she helped with some parts of the routine.

If any girl who is interested about becoming a member of the squad, will be able to tryout during the Fall or the Winter of the 1995-96 school year. Tryouts usually run a week or so. There will be a couple of cheers taught as well as a dance. To conclude the tryouts, everyone who auditions will be asked to come for the finals to become a member of the squad. The best way to make it through the tryouts is to practice the cheers and dance that are taught and present what you've learned to the judges on the final day.

If you have a particular concern about your neighborhood and this could be anything - police protection, government cuts, trash, etc., etc. call your representative. He/She will bring your problem to the attention of the SWNA board for discussion.

Two concerns which were brought to the board meeting were: beautification/clean-up of SW and transportation. It was decided to address these two issues at the next two upcoming SWNA meetings. The theme of the April 24 meeting will be "Clean-up and Beautify SW". The May 22nd meeting will be "Metrobus Rerouting" and it will be attended by Councilman Jack Evans.

District 1 (N. of M St., W. of 6th St.)

Carole Early - 488-3355

Apaula Brown - 479-4658

District 2 (N. of M St., E. of 6th St.)

Joe Rauscher - 554-8094

Zandra Earl - 554-8682

Peggy Jackson - 872-5494

District 3 (S. of M St., W. of Delaware Ave.)

Walter Brooks - 554-4528

Bonnie Staley - 484-0822

District 4 (S. of M St., E. of Delaware Ave.)

Mattie Callaham - 554-1672

Emma Ward - 484-8476

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WEEKDAYS: 7:30 pm, 8:00, 8:20 and 12:10 p.m.

SATURDAY: 8:20 am and 12:10 pm

Arena Stage THE BUTLER SAW SOMETHING FUNNY

Wallace Babington

Farce can be summarily defined as exaggerated comedy that has no basis in reality and is constructed on themes that are absurd and ridiculous. "What the Butler Saw", the current production now at Arena Stage, fulfills every facet of that definition. The British playwright, Joe Orton, has given us a farce that lampoons every possible respected British convention and accepted social custom. Nothing is sacred - no subjects are taboo - no icon beyond ridicule (one joke is even based on the anatomy of a statue of the beloved and revered Winston Churchill).

Among the ingredients of good farce are movement (fast and furious), mistaken identity, timing, choreography, dizzy chases, double entendre, suspension of disbelief and as much female impersonation as possible. This farce combines those ingredients with such unlikely components as nymphomania, incest, cross dressing, blackmail and bribery. In spite of the dark and foreboding sound of that list, the play is not lewd or obscene - it's just funny and entertaining.

The plot of any good farce is immaterial and beside the point. Nonetheless, here is a brief summary of the plot ingredients: Miss Barclay, a young applicant for a secretarial job at a mental hospital is seduced by Dr. Prentice, the hospital chief psychiatrist. She is subsequently mistaken for the psychiatrist's wife's lover, a young hotel employee. A visiting psychiatrist tries to straighten out the mistaken identities while a policeman attempts to arrest the guilty parties. Guilty of what, no one is quite certain. The plot moves from that point to a increasingly complex and preposterous set of circumstances. Mix all of this with a rapid and frequent exchange of clothes among the men and women, crude haircuts, underwear, hypodermic needles and straight jackets. The result is fun - joy - laughter.

Yet there are drawbacks to the production. Farce is difficult and arduous to put across - yet it must seem easy. The effort must not show. This is not always true of this production. At times there appears to be a great effort at humor - the cast is trying very, very hard to develop a funny situation. But in farce the actors have to



Andrew Weems as Dr. Prentice & Sevanne Martin as Gerladine Barclay

be funny; there is not time to create a comic character. And the complex choreography that sends actors running with wild abandon across the stage frequently shows - when it should be invisible.

The cast for this play does not include any of the Arena regulars; all are brought in for this production, even though some have appeared at Arena before. Andrew Weems and Helen Carey as the psychiatrist and his wife carry the main burden of keeping the play moving. And they do it beautifully. They make it seem easy. Most disappointing is Milo O'Shea who seems out of place in such a low brow, irreverent comedy.

He frequently slows the pace and lowers the momentum of the action.

By the way, there is no butler in the cast of characters. Arena tells us that the title derives from an old "peep show" machine that featured brief, provocative and daring views of undressed women. Compared to what is considered family fare these days, those peep shows (and this play) could be rated "PG".

"What the Butler Saw" by Joe Orton, at Arena Stage in the Kreeger Theater, through May 28.

FAMILY NIGHT AT THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIM

The WARD 2 Action Team extends an invitation to you and your family for the play, "Just Outside my Window", performed by The Every-day Theater.

The play will be presented on Thursday, April 27, 1995 at 7:00 p.m. at the Church of the Pilgrim, 22nd and P Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. Admission is free.

Limited transportation is available. For more information call Marsha Middleton at 202-638-4736/202-483-6933 or Peggy Jackson at 202-488-3382.

SENATE DRY CLEANERS

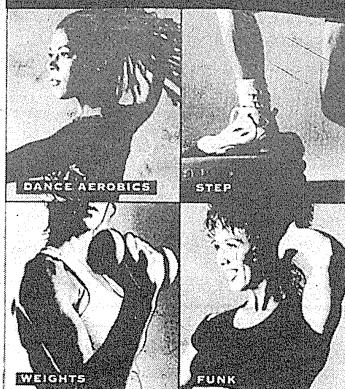
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Participating Locations:

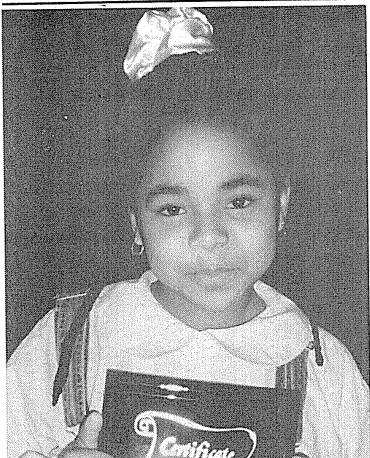
S.W. Washington: 3rd & M St. (St. Matthew's Church)
Tue. & Thur. - 7:00 pm
Sat. - 9:30 am

N.W. Washington: 15th & R St. (15th St. Presby. Church)
Mon./ Tues./ Wed. - 6:30 pm
Sat. - 8:30 am & 9:15 am

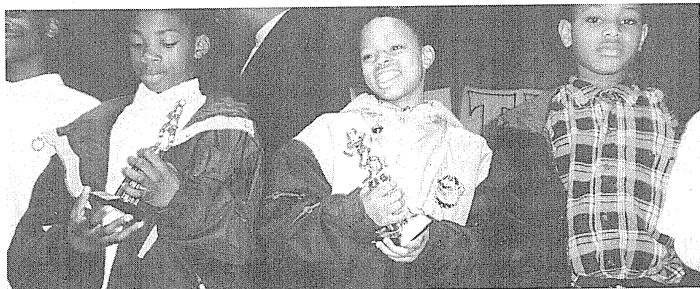
Class Information: 202-363-4447

Club 4 Awards

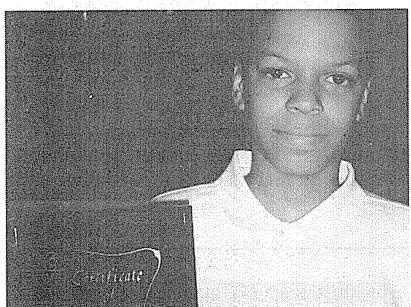
Here are a few of the dozens of awards given at the Annual MPB&G Club 4 Banquet



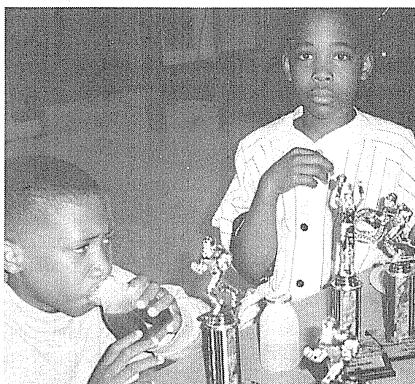
Dontria Brawner, outstanding girl member



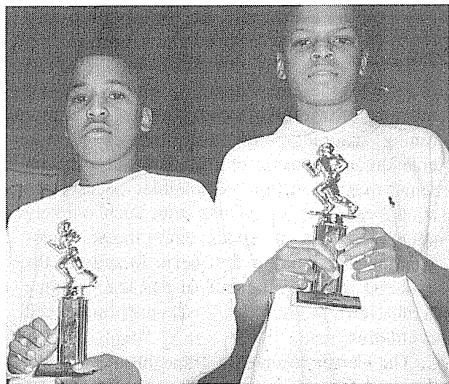
Taijhon Wyatt, Delano Stubbs, Stanley Williams



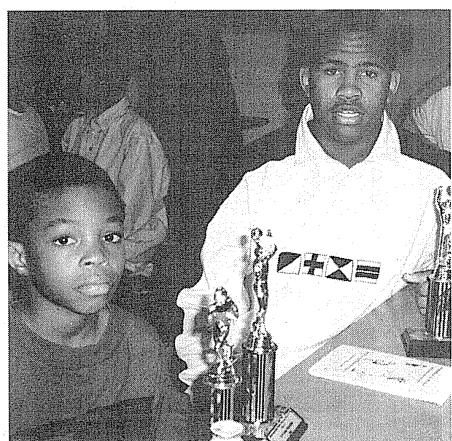
DeAunte Toney, outstanding male club member



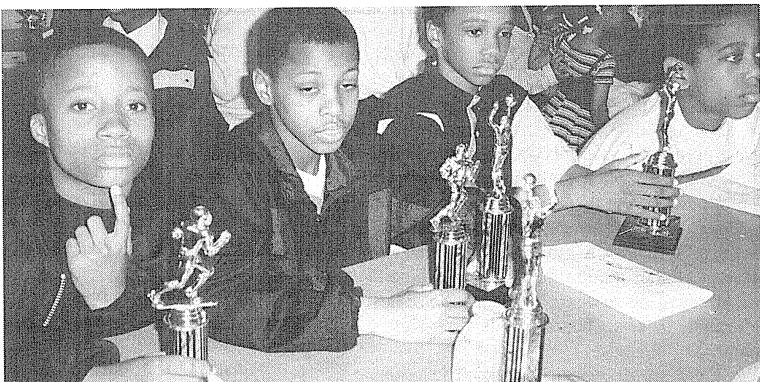
Joseph Shorter, Gregory Randolph



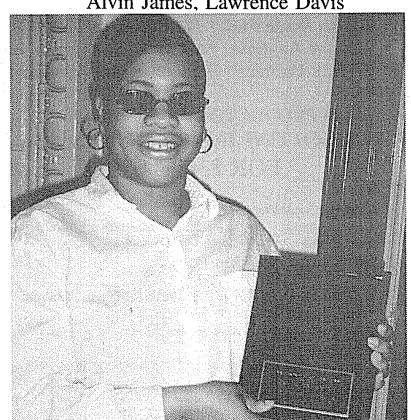
Andrew Callahan, Darrell Matthews,



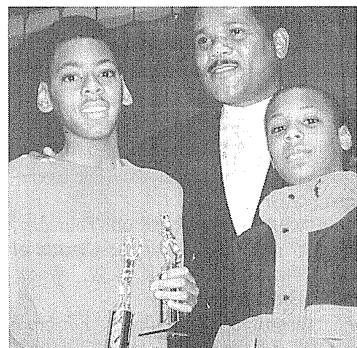
Alvin James, Lawrence Davis



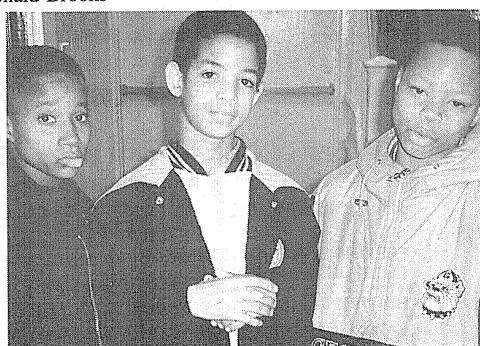
Neal Hargrave, Dario Brown, Carlton Edwards, Donald Brooks



Ernestine Matthews



Marcus Coleman, Antwan Smith, with Officer Gurley



SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT - Awards for special achievement in the EIP Program were given to Neal Hargraves, left, Stephan Summers and Delano Stubbs.

Child Care in SW

In Southwest, we are fortunate to have several very fine all-day child care centers. This article will focus on two. These are: The Early Environment Center at 401 M St., St. (in the EPA Building) and the Creative Child Development Center which is located in the HUD Building.

Early Environment has just received formal notice of accreditation for another three years from the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs. The Academy recognizes outstanding Early Childhood Programs which meet national standards of quality.

The Center serves 74 children from ages 14 months to 5 years. The teacher turnover is very low. Most teachers stay at least three years. When their alumni return, their former teachers are still there.

Currently, about 20% of the children at the Center live in or near Southwest. Early Environments is a non-profit organization and provides a limited number of partial tuition scholarships to deserving children. This is done through their many fundraising activities - bake sales, silent auctions, etc.

When accepting applicants, first priority goes to employees of EPA, the second group to be considered is children of employees at other federal agencies and next, Southwest children and children living in the rest of Washington, DC. The Center received a grant through GSA to be used for partial scholarships for children

of Federal employees.

Parents are welcome to contact Debra Cooper Waples at 202-260-7290 for more information and to arrange a visit to the Center.

The Creative Child Development Center, CCDC which is located at 451 7th St. is licensed by the District of Columbia's Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs and accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs.

It was established by Act of Congress in 1976. CCDC has been operating since June 5, 1978.

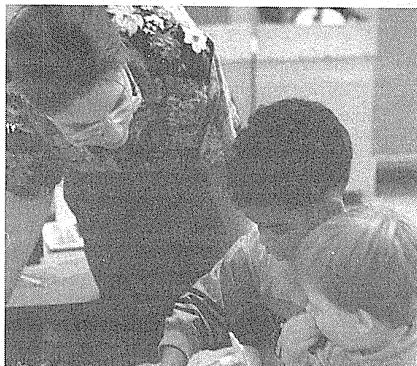
Their motto is "Quality Care in a Warm Learning Environment" and they are very proud of the high level of parent involvement in the school. CCDC has a mission to exceed the basic criteria/requirements of DC Regulatory Agencies for child care centers.

CCDC is a non-profit organization. Last year the children in the center were involved in raising money for the Easter Seal program. They raised over \$900 and the students received a valuable learning experience about helping others.

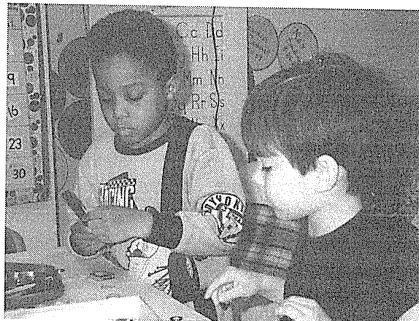
The Center serves up to 60 children ranging in age from 16 months to 9 years of age. About 10% comes from SW. They have several scholarships. GSA gave them some money to be used for scholarships because they are a Federal Child Care Center. Since they are accredited, CCDC was able to receive a bonus from GSA.

The CCDC director, Jill Todd can be reached at 202-708-1935. She will gladly arrange for a

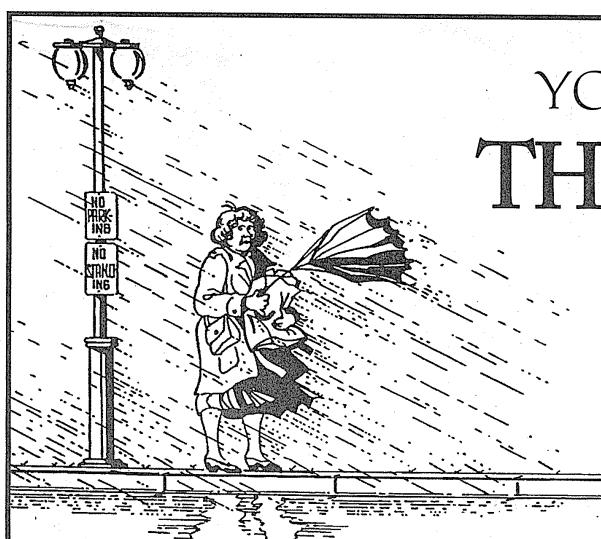
tour of the facility.



Sand exploration at the Creative Child Development Center



Two budding scientists at the Early Environment Center



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SWNA/SWCC ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION

by Thelma D. Jones

While the phalanx of people settled in their seats at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, songs of freedom reminded many about the struggle for equality and human dignity. These songs, coupled with the theme of "In Commemoration of the Memphis Sanitation Workers' Strike of 1968," helped to inspire a timely and provocative approach for the annual Black History Celebration of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly/Southwest Community Council, Inc. (SWNA/SWCC).

Mistress of Ceremonies Thelma Jones and the Rev. Dr. Barron Maberry, Pastor, St. Matthew's Church, each warmly welcomed the audience. MC Jones then introduced Margaret Feldman, former SWNA President and program chair. Feldman praised Jones for her vision and efforts in initiating the Black History Program in 1985 during her capacity as president of the SWNA, and for her role in organizing events for several years after its creation. Feldman then told how the theme of the program was set after she learned that Oyamo's play, "I am a Man," about the Memphis sanitation workers strike was opening in March at the Arena Stage for a month's run.

Jones then called upon Carole Early, editor of the Southwester, who presented the Safeway and Giant sales receipts to the Southwest schools. Principals Vera M. White, Jefferson Junior High; Pauline S. Hamlette, Amidon Elementary School; and Rosalie Huff, Anthony Bowen Elementary School, attended the program.

Keynote speaker Joslyn Williams, President, Metropolitan Council, AFL-CIO, and a long-time Southwest resident, gave a very poignant and powerful talk on the 1968 Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike. A silence pervaded the church as Williams explained how the civil rights movement paralleled the labor movement and the contribution that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. made toward the struggle of both movements. Dr. King was assassinated during his visit to Memphis to lead a march in support of the striking workers. In a compelling voice, Williams noted that "the struggles for both were identical..... It is a struggle for human dignity; it is a struggle for human respect; it is a struggle for constitutional principles."

Jefferson Junior High School Drama Club, under the direction of Drama Instructor Lois Wiley, delighted the audience with a stunning performance of an excerpt from Oyamo's "I am a Man," a partial reenactment of the Memphis strike. Arena Stage made the script available to

the Jefferson Club.

The mood of the program was further heightened when the lovely and talented little children from Amidon Elementary, under the direction of Music instructor Carol Tatum, sang "It Could be a Wonderful World" and "Black Man." Tatum then accompanied the audience in the closing rendition of "We Shall Overcome," the civil rights anthem, as the audience joined hands and swayed from side to side.

Anthony Kroll, Executive Director of Push Literacy Action Now (PLAN), added a special touch to the program by generously donating books to the youth. PLAN made a similar contribution at the Southwest Library's highly celebrated Kwanzaa Program last December. PLAN is actively pursuing efforts to start a literacy program for Southwest residents at the Southwest Library. The celebration ended with refreshments being served.

Special thanks to Boy Scouts Jamal O. Jones and Kevin Lockett of Troop 505 who served as ushers, Washington Cable Company for videotaping the program, Arena Stage, and St. Matthew's Church for the use of their facilities.

WMATA BOARD APPROVES PUBLIC HEARING FOR FISCAL 1996 FARE PROPOSAL

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's Board of Directors has approved public hearings to consider the fiscal 1996 fare proposal.

The public hearing, which will be downtown, will be on Wednesday, April 26, 1995 at 7:30 pm at the WMATA Board Room, 600 - 5th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

The fiscal 1996 fare proposal, a part of the General Manager's fiscal 1996 budget proposal, was developed to generate \$15.5 million in additional revenue, while minimizing impacts on ridership. First presented on January 19 to the budget committee, the major recommendations of the fare proposal are: 1) a 10-cent increase in all Metrobus and Metrorail base fares; 2) extension of the weekday peak period from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; 3) a five-cent increase in the senior citizens and persons with disabilities Metrorail fare; 4) a 10-cent bus-to-bus transfer charge; 5) elimination of the rail value currently encoded on the D.C. Base Pass (\$4.00), Virginia Base Pass (\$5.50), Virginia 2 Zone Pass (\$5.50), and Virginia 3 Zone Pass (\$6.00); 6) elimination of the 5% bonus on farecard purchase between \$10.00 and \$19.95 while retaining the 10% bonus on farecard purchase of \$20.00; 7) elimination of the rail-to-bus transfer discount in Virginia which is currently 25 cents; and 8) elimination of the token discount which is currently 10%. (Tokens would be priced at 10 for \$11.00 and 20 for \$22.00).

After the public hearing, the hearing record will remain open until May 4, 1995, a time period during which public comments may be received about the proposed fare increases. The Board of Directors will consider the fare proposals after the hearing process is completed. If approved, the fare increases will take place late June, 1995.

SEMINAR TO PROVIDE SELF-HELP TIPS TO RESIDENTS IN ABSENCE OF D.C. CONSUMER PROTECTION ENFORCEMENT

Washington, D.C. - Although the D.C. government recently suspended its enforcement of consumer protection laws, D.C. residents can learn valuable self-help techniques to protect their rights as consumers at a free public seminar entitled, "How-To-Guide to Consumer Self Help: Dealing with he Loss of Consumer Protection Enforcement," on Saturday, May 6, 1995, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The free seminar, a community service presentation of the Consumer Affairs Committee of the D.C. Bar's Antitrust, Trade Regulation and Consumer Affairs Section, will be held at the University of the District of Columbia, Van Ness Campus, in the Small Auditorium (AO-3) of Building 44.

Speaker Mark Steinbach, Esq., a consumer protection attorney, and Miriam Hellen Jones, Esq., of the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), will offer practical advice and sources of information to residents regarding their rights as consumers, detail activity by the legal community to supplement the absence of government assistance, and provide legal and non-legal steps consumers can take to assert their rights. The seminar will cover common consumer complaints such as "bait and switch;" false advertising, breach of warranty of performance, and violation of D.C. automobile "lemon law."

According to attorney Laura Polacheck, the Consumer Affairs Committee developed this seminar in response to action taken by the D.C. City Council on December 29, 1995, to cut the DCRA budget; as part of the cuts, the basic consumer protection enforcement activities of the DCRA will be suspended until October 1, 1998.

"The DCRA will no longer be able to provide critical services to D.C. businesses and consumers -- the department will not investigate deceptive or unlawful practices, issue cease and desist orders, or represent the legal interests and rights of consumers," said Polacheck.

"As a result, consumers will not be forced to seek retribution on their own, and most residents are unfamiliar with the resources, limited as they may be, out there. Through this program, and other outreach seminars throughout the year, our Committee will seek to help consumers define their rights without government enforcement protection and explain the avenues of recourse and assistance still available to them."

For more information and program registration, contact the D.C. Bar Sections Office at (202) 626-3463.

We goofed. In the last issue we listed the Amidon Art Winners. The name of Jennifer Barnes was omitted. She is a second grader and was the first place winner. The correct name for one of the new district #2 representative is Joe M. Rauscher.

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SW Volunteers at CCN

The Cooperative Caring Network is a program that helps people in the National Capital Area to maintain maximum independence, health, and quality of life in their own homes.

People join the CCN because they want to help others in the community who are struggling to remain independent. Many retirees have time, concern and experience to share. And just as each individual wants to maintain maximum independence throughout his or her life, so also do people want to see the same for their families, friends and neighbors.

Some of these volunteers live in Southwest. Often they have years of work experience and have different fields of expertise. One of these persons is knowledgeable in the field of insurance, another volunteer has had years of experience with computers. The "Insurance Volunteer" goes to the CCN Office (one day a week) so she can take phone calls from seniors. They ask her all kinds of questions pertaining to Medicare and Medicaid.

The reward of volunteering for the CCN is twofold. The volunteer gets the satisfaction of helping others, and exchangeable rewards, in the form of "Care Credits."

Two hours of grocery shopping" for one year would generate 104 "Care Credit" hours, redeemable for such services as help with yard work, transportation, or insurance counseling. For more information, call the Volunteer Coordinator, Brenda Fennell or the Office Manager Farrell Didio at 393-7736.

RIVER PARKS'S YARD SALE

River Park's Activities Committee will host its annual yard sale on Saturday, May 20, from 10 am until 5 pm along 4th Street, SW (between N and O Streets). If weather prohibits outside sales, the event will be on the same day inside River Park's South Common Room, 1311 Delaware Avenue, SW.

For more information, call (202) 863-3870.

**GREATER SOUTHEAST HEALTH-CARE SYSTEM MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY ANC News**

by Jerry Blasenstein

The 'hospital of choice' for someone to receive quality medical care, either in an emergency or otherwise, can rely on several factors. These may range from the neighborhood the hospital is located in to its reputation, deserved or otherwise. According to Pat Turner-Dodson, resident manager of Riverside Condominium, 1425-4th Street, S.W., Greater Southeast is the flagship of the Greater Southeast Healthcare System, a burgeoning organization that needs to be put into the forefront of peoples' collective consciousness.

The Foundation's mission has been, from its founding, "to improve the health status of the community by fostering high quality, cost effective health services and acting as a catalyst in the community in addressing social and economic issues that affect health and well-being." To this end, the system has developed into a network of hospitals, nursing homes, medical office buildings, pharmacies, adult day care centers, and a series of community outreach programs, reaching more than 600,000 residents of the District of Columbia and Southern Prince George's County, Maryland.

Greater Southeast Hospital itself, located at 1310 Southern Avenue, S.E., at the P.G. border, was opened in 1966. The 450-bed, non-profit institution, strives to respond to the ever-changing health care needs of the community. With a medical staff of 450 physicians, the hospital supports activities ranging from a Critical Care unit, a full-service surgery department, Women's Health Services, and Pediatric Care.

Greater Southeast has been nationally recognized for its outstanding community programs and services. These include the Foster G. McGaw Prize, established to recognize one hospital in the United States each year for excellence in community service.

An important service is the Community Center for the Aging. Very active on this board is Ms. Turner-Dodson, focusing on the long-term care and community-based needs of the elderly, including home delivered meals, nutrition classes, exercise and workshops. Ms. Turner-Dodson has been a staunch advocate of this function in particular, as well as the Healthcare System in general.

People need to be made aware of the good things being done. Guiding Greater Southeast Healthcare into its second forty years is Dalton Tong, CEO and President of Greater Southeast Healthcare System. Through his leadership, GSHS will continue to make inroads, reaching out through its newsletter, 'PULSE', sponsoring Health Fairs, and opening a new Family Health Center, which will help people not in an emergency situation. For information, call 202-574-6646. The GSHS Circle of Friends is a fundraising arm, and can be contacted at 202-574-6077.

At its April 10, 1995 meeting ANC 2D:

1. Voted to send a letter to the Metro Board expressing the Commission's concern over the cut back in bus service in Southwest. The letter will ask WMATA to repair service to Southwest by restructuring existing service and/or developing a partnership with the Federal government. The Commission will also discuss the issue again at the May meeting.
2. Heard two representatives of the National Kidney Foundation describe the general purposes of their organization and their plans for a "River Trek" along the Southwest waterfront on June 3.
3. Heard Tom D'Amato of the Washington Waterfront Association describe plans for this summer's Star Trek event; he explained how planners had modified this year's event to minimize inconvenience to area residents.
4. Agreed not to oppose the ABC license renewal applications for L'Enfant Wine & Beverage, Tina's Wine & Liquor, Bernstein's Liquors, Harry's Liquors, and Shulman's Liquors.
5. Tabled its discussion of the role of the Wiley Branton Community Development Corporation in implementing the Portal site community participation plan until the May ANC meeting.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the ANC will be 7:30 pm, Monday, May 8, 1995 at 400 I Street SW (in the basement of Westminster Church). The agenda, which is subject to last minute changes, now includes a presentation by representatives of the Odyssey III tour ship. For more information, or to request time on the agenda to present a concern to the ANC, call the ANC 2D office at 554-1795.

Shakespeare Festival

The Joint Committee of Temple Micah and St. Augustine's will be having a Shakespeare Festival on Sunday, April 23, 1995 at 2:00 pm. Four different schools will be performing. Hine Jr. High School will do scenes from "The Tempest." Three students from Jefferson Jr. High School, Ayanna Howard, Jasmyne Bowden and Stephanie Isaacs will sing sonnets. Woodrow Wilson High School will present "Romeo & Juliet." Watkins Elementary School has a group named "The Shakespeare Squire" and they will give a rendition of "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

There will be singing acts and refreshments. And adding to the jovial atmosphere, the Nicolo Whimsey Show will be there providing juggling, a musical saw, an accordion duet, and rope walking (with audience participation.)

Temple Micah will be moving away later in the year - this will be your last chance to attend an event sponsored by the Joint Committee of the two congregations. Rain or shine, come to the free festival at 600 M St., SW. You'll have a merry ole time.

Parcel 76 - The Challenger Center

The Southwester Newspaper has been able to learn the following facts about Parcel 76-The Challenger Center:

It is between 7th, 9th & G Streets, S.W., and the Southwest Freeway (Square 413). It will be approximately 130,000 Square feet vacant land.

Parcel 76 is a joint venture formed by the Challenger Center for Space and Science Education and The Challenger Court, Inc. The proposed development contains two parts:

A. Construction of 40 market rate townhouses, containing three bedrooms, a two car garage, and numerous amenities, and

B. The Challenger Center for Space Science Education which will contain a visitor's center, a theater, a multi-purpose/staging room, exhibit area, living areas and limited office space. The use of the facility by District teachers and students will be emphasized.

The City Council approved the Urban Renewal Plan changes as well as the unsolicited proposal. The drawings for the townhouses were reviewed by Architectural Review Panel. The next action will be that, the DHCD staff is reviewing the documents submitted in compliance with the ERA and also preparing the LDA in conjunction with OCC.

The proposed beginning of the project is Summary 1995. Jose Nunez who is with D.C. Department (HUD), is the project manager. His number is 535-1950.

Come to the SWNA Meeting on Mon. April 27th at the library

learn about the beautification/clean-up program

Southwest DC is Home

Clean UP!
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Fix UP!

**"Carrollburg Friends"
Do It Themselves**

by Emma P. Ward

Residents of "Carrollburg Friends" (which includes the 1200 Blocks of Carrollburg Place and Half Streets, S.W.) have decided they will not allow their streets to be untidy because of DC budget cuts. On April 8, they organized a cleanup of the alleys and the area on the N Street side of Syphax School. They removed the trash and placed it on the corner of South Capitol and M Streets. Many of the residents who were unable to assist with the cleanup donated trash bags and money to purchase tools for the cleanup. They had been trying to get the city to clean the alleys since December. Although the city did not clean the alley, they did remove the trash.

The closing of Syphax has left the residents in agony because of the litter in the area. All are asked to assist with keeping the streets, alleys and surrounding areas clean.

The Southwest Neighborhood Association is planning a Clean-up Day for all of Southwest. The exact date of the Clean-up Day will be discussed at the Assembly Meeting on April 24th. Come to the meeting to learn of the plans.



A picture taken before the Clean-up



Neighbors pitching-in